



**Postdoctoral Fellow Position at the NIH/NIEHS in the  
Perinatal and Early Life Epidemiology Group  
Posted: April 22, 2026**

We are seeking multiple talented and motivated postdoctoral fellows with training and experience in environmental health sciences, epidemiology, or biostatistics for a position in the Perinatal and Early Life Epidemiology Group (PI: [Dr. Kelly Ferguson](#)) in the [Epidemiology Branch](#) at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in Durham, North Carolina. The successful candidates will have a strong background in epidemiology, including experience with statistical modeling. Experience in environmental health sciences and biomarker studies is beneficial but not required.

Preterm birth, preeclampsia, and fetal growth restriction are associated with extensive later-life disease and economic costs. Research clearly indicates a role of the maternal environment during pregnancy in the origin of these outcomes, with evidence for effects of chemical exposures. However, the research in this field has primarily been limited to investigation of known chemicals. Furthermore, the mechanistic underpinnings of these relationships remain poorly understood and may be augmented with novel tools such as metabolomics and proteomics. The post-doctoral fellows will collaborate on projects in this research area, working with high-dimensional chemical exposure biomarker with a specific focus on novel per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and micro- and nanoplastics (MNPs) using both targeted and non-targeted data. Opportunities addressing epidemiologic research questions for improving the understanding of adverse pregnancy outcome phenotypes using novel methods are available as well.

The fellow's time will be devoted to data analysis, manuscript preparation, and career development (e.g., grant writing). Fellows will have the opportunity to propose related research that can be internally funded and are eligible and encouraged to apply for K99/R00 and non-NIH research grants. While NIEHS fellows have no teaching responsibilities, interaction with faculty and students at the local universities (University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, and Duke University) can be facilitated and is encouraged. Opportunities for mentoring undergraduate and graduate students are also available.

Salary and benefits are highly competitive. Initial appointment will be two years at NIEHS in Durham, North Carolina, with additional time (up to 5 years total) depending on productivity. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the positions are filled. Start date is flexible. Applicants should submit the following materials to [epifellowships@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:epifellowships@niehs.nih.gov) and directly to [kelly.ferguson2@nih.gov](mailto:kelly.ferguson2@nih.gov):

- Letter describing areas of research interest
- Curriculum vitae with bibliography
- Copies of 1-2 recent publications
- Contact information for 3 individuals serving as references

*The NIH is dedicated to building a diverse community in its training and employment programs.*